Pakistan's legitimate needs have been conveyed to all concerned including the Swedish Government. Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take all necessary measures to safeguard it.

Protection of the Interests of Indian Exporters in Barcelona

2090. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the consulate General of India in Barcelona, Spain has been unable to protect the interests of Indian exporters even on representations from the Indian parties from the business on-slaughts let loose by some Spanish business community;

(b) whether the representations from the Indian exporters have not been attended to even by the office of Consulate General of India in Spain despite repeated requests;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what further action is being proposed to take up the issue with his counterpart in Spanish Government in order that bilateral trade agreements between the two countries may not have adverse effects on Indian economy and export business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) We do not have a consulate General in Barcelona. We have an Honorary Consul General who essentially looks after consular matters. Matters related to trade between India and Spain are handled by our Embassy in Madrid.

(b) and (c) Queries and representations received from Indian businessmen by our Honorary Consul General in Barcelona are redirected to our Embassy in Madrid which looks into them promptly with a view to helping Indian exporters.

(d) Disputes of a commerical nature are essentially for the parties concerned to resolve directly between themselves. However, whenever such disputes are brought to the attention of our Embassy in Madrid, it invariably takes appropriate action to try and facilitate an amicable settlement by contacting the concerned parties and Chambers of Commerce in Spain.

US Dual Policy in Arms Dealing

2091. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news appearing in 'Dainik Jagaran' dated 16th July, 1994 regarding US dual policy in arms dealing; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto and the stand taken/likely to be taken by Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government policies with respect to procurement of arms are determined by national security considerations and factors such as cost, performance etc. It would not be in the interest of national security to comment on details of arrangements that have been or are being worked out in this regard.

Eligibility Criteria to Hold Diplomatic Passport

2092. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the immunities and facilities available to holders of Indian Diplomatic Passports;

(b) who is entitled to hold a Diplomatic Passport;

(c) whether legislators and ministers of State Governments are eligible to hold diplomatic Pasports; and

(d) who are entitled for getting Diplomatic Passport through our missions abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Under the terms of the Vienna Convention, immunity and privileges are extended to diplomats by the Government of the country to which they are accredited. These immunities include immunity from any form of arrest or detention, and immunity from criminal, civil and administrative jurisdiction of the receiving State. The privileges are exemption from customs duties and taxes. These are restricted to the administrative territory of the receiving State. A mere possession of a diplomatic passport does not entitle the holder to the privileges and immunities enumerated in the Vienna Convention.

(b) Details regarding the different categories of persons eligible for diplomatic passports are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(c) Yes, they are entitled to diplomatic passports while proceeding outside India on business of Government of India or on affairs of State.

(d) The same categories of persons who can be issued with diplomatic passports in India.

Statement

List of persons eligible for Diplomic Passports

(*Please see serial No.* 3(2)(a)—*part I of Schedule II to the Passport Rules* 1967).

CATEGORY 'A' : *PERSONS ENTITLED TO DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS BECAUSE OF THE POSITION THEY HOLD*

1. President of India.
2. Vice-President of India.
3. Prime Minister of India.
4. Former Presidents of India.
5. (a) Chief Justice of India.
   (b) Speaker of Lok Sabha.
6. (a) Cabinet Ministers of the Union.
   (b) Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.
   (c) Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha.
   (d) Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha.
7. Holders of Bharat Ratna Decorations.
8. Chief Ministers of States.
9. Governors of States.
10. (a) Judges of the Supreme Court.
    (b) Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.
    (c) Deputy Chief Ministers of States.

(d) Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha.

(e) Members of the Planning Commission.

(f) Ministers of State of the Union.

(g) Deputy Ministers of the Union

11. Members of Parliament.

12. (a) Former Vice Presidents of India.

(b) Former Prime Ministers of India.

(c) Former Governors of States.

(d) Former Chief Justices of India.

(e) Former Speakers of the Lok Sabha.

(f) Former Cabinet Ministers of the Union.

Note : The above is not strictly in accordance with the table of precedence.

CATEGORY 'B' : *PERSONS ENTITLED TO DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS WHEN PROCEEDING OUTSIDE INDIA ON THE BUSINESS OF THE GOVERNMENT OR ON THE AFFAIRS OF THE STATE :*

1. (a) Chairman and Speakers of the State Legislatures.

(b) Cabinet Ministers in States.

(c) Deputy Chairman and Deputy Speakers of the State Legislatures.

(d) Ministers of State in States.

(e) Deputy Ministers in States.

2. (a) Chief Ministers of the Union Territories.

(b) Chief Executive Councillor, Delhi.

(c) Speakers of the Legislative Assemblies in the Union Territories.

(d) Chairman of the Metropolitan Council, Delhi.

(e) Lieutenant Governors of the Union Territories.

(f) Ministers in the Union Territories.

(g) Executive Councilors, Delhi.

(h) Deputy Speakers of the Legislative Assemblies in Union Territories.

(i) Deputy Chairman of the Metropolion Council, Delhi.

(j) Chief Commissioners of Union Territories not having Council of Ministers.

3. (a) Chief Justices of High Courts.

(b) Puisne Judges of High Courts.

4. (a) Attorney General of India.

(b) Comptroller and Auditror General of India.

(c) Governor of the Reserve Bank of India.

(d) Chairman of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission.

(e) Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission.

(f) Chairman of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission.

(g) Chairman of the University Grants Commission.

(h) Chairman of the University Grants Commission.

(i) Chairman of Railway Board.

(j) Solicitor General of India.

(k) Chief Election Commissioner.

(l) Chairman of the Tariff Commission.

5. (a) Additional Solicitor General of India.

(b) Advocate Generals of States.

(c) Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

(d) Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(e) Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities.

(f) Members of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission.

(g) Members of the Union Public Service Commission.

(h) Members of the Minorities Commission.

(i) Membes of the Scheduled Tribes Commission.

(j) MLAs/MLCs.

6. (a) Officers holding rank equivalent to or above Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

(b) Officers holding rank equivalent to or above Major General in the Defence Services.

7. (a) Heads of State Bank of India and other nationalised Banks.

(b) Chief Executives of Public Sector Undertakings holding posts enumerated in Categories 'A' & 'B' of the lists brought out by the Bureau of Public Enterprises.

Category 'C' :

1. Non-career Heads of Missions and Posts abroad.

2. Indian nationals occupying positions is International Organisations and Inter-Governmental Organisations/Agencies who would normally be entitled to diplomatic passports in their respective Organisations/Agencies.

Category 'D' :

1. Officials and non-officials proceeding abroad as leaders of Government delegations to International Conferences.

2. Indian Diplomatic Couriers.

Category 'E' :

Retired Grade I Officers of the Indian Foreign Service (Branch 'A')/Retired Grade I High Commissioners/Ambassadors.

Category 'F' :

Any other person who, in the opinion of the Minister for External Affairs, should have a diplomatic passport either because of the nature of his foreign mission or because of the position he holds or has held in the past.

Schedule to the list of persons eligible for diplomatic passport

Categary of persons entitled to diplomatic passports	Period for which passport should normally be made valid at a time	Countries for which passport should normally be endorsed
Category 'A'	Five Years	All countries.
Category 'B'	Period of official assignment plus a reasonable period for journey subject to a minimum period of one year.	-do-
Category 'C'	Period of official assignment plus a respoable period for journey subject to a minimum period of one year.	-do-
Category 'D'	Period of official assignment plus a resonable period for journey subject to a minimum period of one year.	-do-
Category 'E'	Three years.	-do-
Category 'F'	To be determined in each case according to instructions of Minister.	-do-

पारपत्र जारी न किये जाने के संबंध में शिकायतें

2093. चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह :
श्री कनक सिंह मोहन सिंह मंगरोला :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को पारपत्र जारी न किए जाने और पारपत्र जारी करने संबंधी सेवाओं के बेहतर न होने के संबंध में शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) पारपत्र कार्यालयों में समुचित प्रबन्ध बनाए रखने के लिए सरकार क्या प्रयास कर रही है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रघुनन्दन लाल भाटिया) : (क) जी हां। इस स्वरूप की शिकायतें सरकार को समय समय पर मिलती रहती हैं ।

(ख) एक विवरण संग्लन है **(नीचे देखिये)** । बहुत-से मामलों में पासपोर्ट जारी करने में विलम्ब पूरे दस्तावेज और/अथवा सत्यापन न होने के कारण होता है।

(ग) सरकार ने पासपोर्ट कार्यालयों की कार्य-प्रणाली को सुधारने के लिए कई कदम उठाए हैं जिनमें एक शिकायत अधिकारी मनोनीत करना शामिल है जो विभिन्न प्रकार की शिकायतों के मामले देखता है और उनका समाधान करने का प्रयास करता है । केन्द्रीय पासपोर्ट एवं वीजा प्रभाग हर सप्ताह सभी पासपोर्ट कार्यालयों के कार्य-संचालन की निगरानी करता है । यह पुन: उनकी कार्य-प्रणाली को सुधारने और प्रबंधों को अद्यतन बनाने के लिय अनुदेश देता है ताकि आम जनता को बेहतर सेवाएं प्रदान की जा सकें ।